## **Alabama Department of Youth Services**



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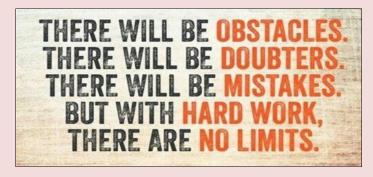
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# The Vacca and Mt. Meigs Campuses Continue to Make Strides with Facility Improvement Plans

For the past two and a half years, the Vacca and Mt. Meigs Campuses have worked diligently on the goals set forth in their Facility Improvement Plans (FIPs). Each campus has demonstrated great strides as it relates to safety, order, and security outcome measures. For the Mt. Meigs Campus, the number of times isolation or room confinement is used for disciplinary action has continued to be well below the national field average for the past two years. In addition, the average duration of isolation and room confinement has decreased 78% since April 2017. The average duration for isolation and room confinement is now just slightly above the national field average (Mt. Meigs - 9.89 hrs, Field Avg. - 9.33 hrs). For safety, the Mt. Meigs Campus has remained well below the national field average as it relates to assaults and fights on youth and assaults on staff since the beginning of PbS data collection (April 2016).



For the Vacca Campus, physical restraint use decreased 64% since October 2016. In addition, the average duration of isolation and room confinement has decreased 65% since April 2016. The Vacca Campus has been below the national field average since October 2016 for average duration of isolation and room confinement. In regards to injuries to youth by other youth, Vacca has seen a continuous steady decline since April 2016. Lastly, the percent of staff who reported fearing for their safety is 50% less than what was reported in April 2017. Great job Vacca and Mt. Meigs!

On December 4, 2018 the Vacca Campus showed students and staff appreciation for their hard work during the October PbS data collection period. The students and staff were served cake and ice cream at the Student Union Building.



## **Alabama Department of Youth Services**

### October 2018 Survey Results - Highlighting the Positive!

#### **Vacca Campus Youth and Staff Climate Surveys**

**Youth Climate Survey** - Over 80% of the youth indicated the facility has a good school and recreational program. For the school and medical care, 88% indicated they were helpful, somewhat helpful, or very helpful. Over 80% indicated the programming is helping them understand what they need to do to return home. For family contact, a large majority have talked on the phone with a parent or guardian with 79% talking 1 to 2 times per week. Under safety and security, 77% of students do not fear for their safety. In regards to staff, approximately 80% of youth indicate the staff show residents respect all or some of the time and are good role models. The majority (73%) state they trust staff either most or some of the time. When it comes to staff genuinely caring about the residents, 75% of the youth state staff care or sometimes care, and 81% state staff typically make more positive comments than negative ones.

Staff Climate Survey – For safety and security, 86% state the adequacy of staff following safety procedures are either good or excellent and 84% indicated that the facility is safe or very safe for youth. For the living conditions and climate, 79% of the staff indicated the facility has a good school program. As it relates to facility staff and management, 76% of staff indicate the support and guidance received from their supervisor is good or excellent. Communication has improved with 68% indicating communication between all areas is good or excellent, and 86% state they receive the information they need to perform their job effectively. A large majority (86%) state they agree or strongly agree with being satisfied with their job. In regards to staff/youth relations, approximately 93% of staff indicate the staff show residents respect all or some of the time. Approximately 89% of staff believe the staff are good role models all or some of the time.

### Mt. Meigs Campus Youth and Staff Climate Surveys

**Youth Climate Survey** - Approximately 84% of the youth indicated the facility has a good school and recreational program. The majority (57%) also indicate the rules are fair. For the school and medical care, approximately 65% indicated they were helpful, somewhat helpful, or very helpful. In regards to treatment planning, 82% indicated they were involved in the treatment planning and 92% indicate the programming is helping them understand what they need to do to return home. For family contact, a large majority have talked on the phone with a parent or guardian (96%) with 48% talking 1 to 2 times per week and 33% 3 or 4 times per week. In regards to staff, approximately 86% of youth indicate the staff show residents respect all or some of the time, and 80% stated staff are good role models all or some of the time. The majority (73%) state they trust staff either most or some of the time. When it comes to staff genuinely caring about the residents, 80% of the youth state staff care or sometimes care, and 84% state staff typically make more positive comments than negative ones.

Staff Climate Survey – For safety and security, 72% state the adequacy of staff following security and safety procedures are either good or somewhat good. In regards to training, a large majority (89%) approve of the training received. For the living conditions and climate, 67% of the staff indicated the facility has a good school and recreation program. For communication between all areas, 75% state they receive the information they need to perform their job effectively. A majority (71%) state they agree or strongly agree with being satisfied with their job. In regards to staff/youth relations, approximately 95% of staff indicate the staff show residents respect all or some of the time. Approximately 92% of staff believe the staff are good role models all or some of the time. When it comes to staff genuinely caring about the residents, 94% of the staff state staff care or sometimes care, and 89% state staff typically make more positive comments than negative ones.